

# The Word Wizard's Book of ADVERBS





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# Magic words

Words work magically! They let us dream big and go far. They help us sing sweetly. They make us laugh hard. Words started our stories once upon a time. And they let us live happily ever after. We can do so much with words!



*Words make  
the world  
go around!*

## Magic moves

We use words to tell stories now and then. We use words to ask questions clearly. We use words to find answers quickly. We use words called **adverbs**. Adverbs describe how things move.



*The Word Wizards know some magic moves. But they need your help to learn about adverbs.*



*Words can even move you upside down!*



# What are adverbs?

Adverbs are words that describe **verbs**. Verbs tell what people or things are doing. The word “jump” is a verb.

Adverbs tell us more about verbs. They tell how, when, or where actions take place.

The words “wildly,” “soon,” and “around” are adverbs.

We could use those adverbs to describe jumping.

## Adverbs tell how

Some adverbs tell how things happen. We say, “The boy jumps joyfully. He leaps high in the air.”

The words “joyfully” and “high” are adverbs. They describe how the boy moves. How do you move?



# Word Wizard in-training



Help the Word Wizard find the adverbs below. Do they tell how, when, or where actions happen?



*This girl is bouncing up and down.*



*These girls are laughing hard. They are really having a ball!*



# Adverbs tell when

Some adverbs tell when actions take place. What are you doing today? You are reading this book now! The words “today” and “now” are adverbs. They tell that actions happen in the present.

## Before and after

Some adverbs tell that actions have already taken place. “Before” and “yesterday” describe actions in the past. Other adverbs tell that actions will take place. “After” and “tomorrow” describe actions in the future.



*This girl is reading a book now, too. She is learning all about adverbs!*

# Word Wizard

in training

It is time to help the Word Wizard! Which caption tells when actions take place? Find it now!



*These kids are ready to get the ball rolling!*



*These kids are already playing soccer.*



# Adverbs tell where

Some adverbs tell where actions take place. You can go here or there. You can play inside or outside. You can clean upstairs or downstairs. You can bike near or far. You can do things anywhere! These place words are all adverbs.



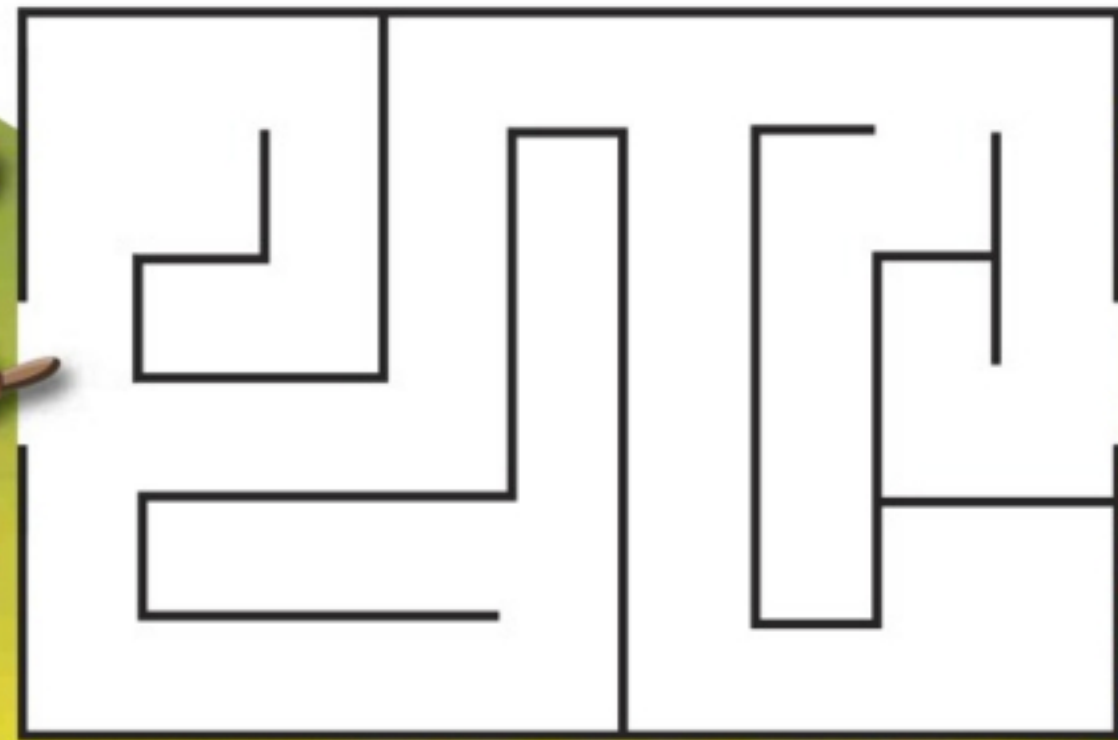
*The balloons carry the boy up, up, and away!*



## Word Wizard in training

Adverbs help us get where we want to go. Turn left. Turn right. Go straight. Turn around. Go back. We would be lost without adverbs!

Look at the maze below. Can you help the Word Wizard get home? Use adverbs to tell her the way.





# Sentences

We join words to form **sentences**. Sentences are complete thoughts or ideas. They are made up of many kinds of words. Each word has a job to do. Adverbs give us details about verbs in sentences. They tell how, when, and where actions happen.

*How do these animals move? Use adverbs in a sentence to describe each animal's action.*

*This girl and her dog are dressed alike. They are both super!*

## Finding adverbs

Adverbs can come before verbs in sentences. We say, "My pet bunny always hops." Adverbs can also come after verbs. We say, "My bird chirps loudly." Some adverbs are easy to spot in sentences. They end in the **suffix** "ly." Suffixes are letters added to the end of words. They change the meaning of the words.

*Uh-oh! The cat chased the dog around. They accidentally broke the pot!*



# Adverbs compare

We can use adverbs to **compare** actions. Comparing means telling what is the same or different. To compare two actions, we add the suffix “er.” We say the yellow apple grows big. The green cabbage grows bigger. To compare more actions, we add the suffix “est.” The orange pumpkin grows biggest of all!



*Race cars zoom fast around the track!*

*Which car moves most slowly around the track? Which moves most quickly?*

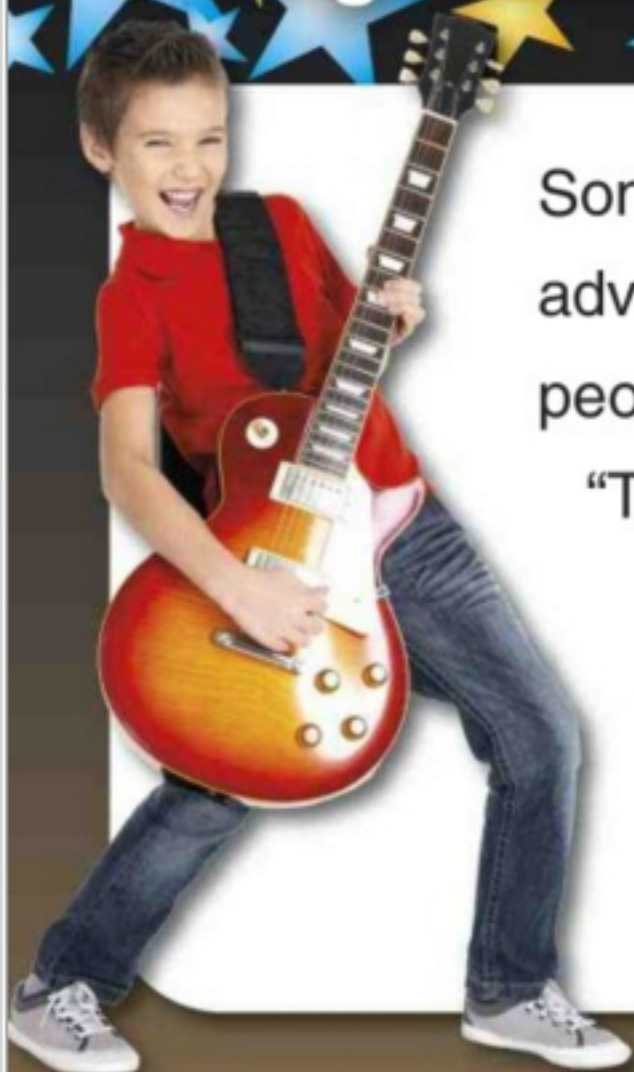
## More or less

Adverbs that end in “ly” follow a different rule. We add “more” or “less” to compare two actions. The red car moves more quickly than the green car. The green car moves less quickly.

We add “most” or “least” to compare more than two actions. The white car moves least quickly. It loses the race. The blue car moves most quickly. It wins the race!



# Adjectives to adverbs



Some **adjectives** can magically become adverbs! Adjectives are words that describe people, places, and things. We can say, "The boy plays loud music." The word "loud" is an adjective. It describes the music. We can also say, "The boy plays his music loudly." The word "loudly" is an adverb. It describes the verb "plays."



*This girl has a happy smile. She is smiling happily.*

## Forming adverbs

We form some adverbs by adding "ly." The adjective "bad" becomes the adverb "badly." The adjective "nice" becomes the adverb "nicely." Some words follow different rules.

Adjective ends in	Example	Rule	Adverb formed
a <b>consonant</b> then the letter "y"	scary noisy easy crazy	change "y" to "i" before adding "ly"	scarily noisily easily crazily
a <b>vowel</b> then the letter "l"	careful loyal cruel awful	keep the "l" and add "ly"	carefully loyally cruelly awfully

**a e i o u**

*Vowels are the alphabet letters a, e, i, o, u, and sometimes y. Consonants are the other alphabet letters.*

**y**

*Sometimes y is a consonant, and sometimes y is a vowel.*



# Adverbs add details

Adverbs add important details to our stories. They help us **communicate** with others. To communicate means to share ideas and information. We choose the adverbs that tell our stories best. We use different adverbs to keep our stories interesting.

## Synonyms

Some adverbs are **synonyms**. Synonyms mean the same thing or nearly the same thing as other words. The words “happily” and “gladly” are synonyms. The words “bravely” and “boldly” are synonyms. They are words with the same meanings.



## Word Wizard in training

Use your finger to match up these synonyms. Think hard and match them carefully!



kindly

beautifully

silently

quietly

nearly

gently

prettily

joyfully

happily

almost

softly

nicely






# Adverbs give clues

Adverbs give us clues when we read stories. They tell us more about the **characters**. Characters are the people and animals in books. We cannot see how, when, or where they move. So we check adverbs for clues. Then we paint pictures of them in our heads.

## Talk about adverbs

Adverbs also tell us how characters feel. We look for clues in their **dialogue**. Dialogue is the things characters say. Adverbs tell us how characters say them. If a character talks excitedly, how do they feel? If a character speaks shyly, how do they feel?





Adverbs  
make stories  
come alive!




How are these birds talking?  
Use adverbs to describe them.


# Word Wizard in training



Help the Word Wizard find the adverbs below. They will tell you how the people feel. Then read the sentences aloud. Use your voice to show their feelings.



*"We won first prize," the students said proudly.*



*"I dropped my ice-cream cone," the girl said sadly.*



# Write on!

Now it is time to make your own story!  
Get some paper and crayons. Then  
draw a character. You can make up one.  
You can draw one you already know.  
You can even draw the Word Wizard!



Add a sentence to your story. Use adverbs to tell how,  
when, or where the character moves. Now add a  
sentence of dialogue. What does your character say?  
How do they say it? Use adverbs to paint a picture  
and tell your story.



# Learning more

## Books

*Adverbs* (Grammar Basics) by Kate Riggs. Creative Paperbacks, 2013.

*Doggie Day Camp: Verb and Adverb Adventures* by Cynthia Reeg.  
Guardian Angel Publishing Inc., 2008.

*Hole-in-One Adverbs* (Grammar All-Stars) by Doris Fisher. Gareth Stevens  
Publishing, 2008.

*Lazily, Crazily, Just a Bit Nasally: More about Adverbs* (Words Are  
CATegorical) by Brian P. Cleary. First Avenue Editions, 2010.

## Websites

Shoot adverbs with an owl cannon in this fun game.

[www.turtlediary.com/grade-3-games/ela-games/precision-adverb.html](http://www.turtlediary.com/grade-3-games/ela-games/precision-adverb.html)

Choose your words carefully in this adverb matching game.

[www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/match/term/matchgeneric2.asp?  
filename=msmith5adverbmatch](http://www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/match/term/matchgeneric2.asp?filename=msmith5adverbmatch)

Test your knowledge with this adverb quiz.

<http://quizzes.cc/the-adverb-quiz-242>

Match and learn adverbs at this fun web page.

[www.learnenglish.de/Games/Adverbs/Adverbs.html](http://www.learnenglish.de/Games/Adverbs/Adverbs.html)



# Words to know

**adjective** (AJ-ik-tiv) A word that describes a person, place, or thing

**adverb** (AD-vurb) A word that tells how, when, or where an action takes place

**character** (KAR-ik-ter) A person or animal in a book

**communicate** (kuh-MYOO-ni-keyt) To share ideas and information

**compare** (kuhm-PAIR) To tell what is the same or different

**consonant** (KON-suh-nuhnt) A letter of the alphabet that is not a vowel

**dialogue** (DAH-uh-lawg) The things characters in books say

**sentence** (SEN-tns) A complete thought or idea

**suffix** (SUHF-iks) One or more letters added to the end of a word

**synonym** (SIN-uh-nim) A word that means the same thing or nearly the same thing as another word

**verb** (vurb) An action word that tells what a person or thing is doing

**vowel** (VOU-uhl) The alphabet letters a, e, i, o, u, or y

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